

TOWN OF KENSINGTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
Kensington Town Hall  
95 Amesbury Road  
Kensington, NH 03833

MONDAY  
NOVEMBER 7, 2022  
Meeting Minutes  
6:30 pm

**In Attendance: Joseph Pace, Bob Solomon, Bob Gustafson**

**Joe opened the meeting at 6:28pm.**

Joe opened the meeting to public forum, no public comments.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

- Recreation Committee- Sarah Turcott

There were a few items for the board that Sarah asked them to review.

- The committee is looking to have a Senior Tea on November 16, 2022, at 1pm in the town hall, The board had no issues with this. They are looking to use \$100 from their budget.
- Holiday Stroll will be held on Sunday November 27, 2022, and the committee would like to use \$3300 to pay for the Hay Ride from the Park to the Town Parking lot across from Town Hall. The board approved this payment.
- New Years Eve fireworks will be planning again this year and the committee would like to use what is remaining in their budget for this and the remaining money needed to come from the Recreation Revolver. The Board had no issues with this event or the proposed funding request.
- The committee does not have a member that would be able to attend the budget meeting next week, so Sarah explained that they are asking for the same amount as last year for the recreation committee to be able to provide events and programs for the town.

Joe asked when the revolver might be able to fund all of the committees programs and events and it is the plan for them to be able to fund all events and programs through the revolver soon, this will reduce the need for them to approach the board for a budgeted amount for their programs.

- Police Department –Chief Scott Cain –

Chief Cain explained to the board that there is a need to update his fee for details. The area towns are anywhere from \$75-\$85 an hour and he would like to increase Kensington to \$65. He does not want to overburden the vendors needing the details so does not want to increase them too much, the administration rate will not change. He is also looking to increase the town detail rate from \$40 hourly to \$60 hourly. He has discussed this with Matt the road manager and he has already increased his budget to account for this.

The board will hold a public hearing to address this and other fees for the town on December 5, 2022.

He updated the board on the need for a 7<sup>th</sup> full time officer. There is an officer that is possibly leaving Kensington and the officer he is looking at is already trained and looking to come to Kensington. The board talked about the current work force in the police department and are not ready to commit to a 7<sup>th</sup> full time position but filling the position if someone leaves is different.

- Fees- There has been a lot of Right to Know Requests and the town does not have fees specific to them. The board and department heads looked at various towns and the fees that they charge for their copies. The board will add this to the public hearing in December to adjust the fees in the town for copies and add a Right to Know Policy for all departments to follow.
- Fire Department – Chief Jon True -not in attendance
- Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-  
Matt informed the board that he identified dead and damaged trees in the town. Some being On Muddy Pond Road and Drinkwater Road, these will be addressed soon.  
B. Solomon asked if there was enough in the tree line item of his budget and there is money left.
- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin- the board reviewed the outstanding taxes there was just over \$60,000.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Grange Hall Trustees- Warrant Article- Meagan Gross was in attendance to discuss the warrant article for the Grange Hall. The trustees wanted to know what should be included in the article. J. Pace explained that the warrant article should include structural concerns now and not to include programming.  
The other questions are if the town wants to keep the building and also if they want to put the upkeep expenses for the building into the operating budget.  
Further discussion will be had and there should be some outreach to the community to see what the building could be used for in the future.
- Set Public Hearing for first of December for Unanticipated Funds  
And Updating fees- the 5<sup>th</sup> of December will be the public hearing date for the unanticipated funds and to update fees within the town.
- The tax rate was discussed. The board looked at the MS forms for revenue and expenses and looked at last year's rate as well. **B. Solomon made a motion to approve the Preliminary Tax Rate of 19.86, B. Gustafson seconded the motion with all in favor.**  
The due date for the December tax bills will be December 14, 2022.
- The board will take a look at the warrant article first drafts on November 21, 2022.
- On December 5, 2022 the board will go over the encumbrances.
- B. Gustafson and B. Solomon will be at the polls tomorrow.

#### **Other Departments:**

Kathleen Felch:

- Veterans Application Map 3 Lot 55A- B. Gustafson made a motion to accept the Veterans Credit for Map 3 Lot 55A, B. Solomon seconded all in favor.
  - NHMA legal files-the board will not request the files.
  - Preliminary Ratio for the town- the board signed the preliminary rate equalization certificate to be returned to the state. The ratio is 64.9%.
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- B. Gustafson made a motion to approve the October 17<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, seconded by B. Solomon, all in favor.
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- Bills and payroll were signed.

The next meeting will be on November 14, 2022, with the next regular meeting being on November 21, 2022.

B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm, seconded by B. Solomon, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen T Felch